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Tajuk : Mawan : State To Send 209 Athletes To SUKMA XVI.



TAN Sri William Mawan Ikom (left) and Assistant Minister of Tourism Datuk Talib Zulpilip arrive for the second last day of the DUN session yesterday.

## Mawan: State to send 209 athletes to SUKMA XVI

**SARAWAK** is sending a contingent of 209 athletes, participating in 14 sports and 45 officials to the SUKMA XVI which will be held in Kuala Lumpur from 28 June – 7 July 2013, said the Minister of Social Development Tan Sri William Mawan Ikom.

He said the training for SUKMA XVI is still ongoing until June 2013, while the most recent activities that MSN had were the Motivation Camp for Athletes which was held at Lambir National Park, Miri and Motivation Camp for Coaches, held at Similajau National Park in Bintulu.

“The other planned activities would be SUKMA Camp Contingent to be held from 23 to 27 June at Kompleks Jabatan Belia dan Sukan, Kuching. Meanwhile, the handing over of the State Flag to

the Head of the Sarawak Contingent would be held on the 24 June,” he revealed.

Mawan was delivering his winding up speech at the 17th State Legislative Assembly (DUN) Sitting held at the august House here yesterday.

Apart from that, the Federal government through the Ministry of Youth and Sports Malaysia has approved 10 Gelanggang Futsal 1 Mukim to be implemented throughout Sarawak. However, due to siting problems only 8 of such Gelanggang could be built and completed, he explained.

This year the Federal Government through the Ministry of Youth and Sports Malaysia has proposed to build two (2) synthetic football fields; one in Kuching and the other one in Bintulu and also undertakes the repair and upgrading works

for Kompleks Sukan Serian.

The Sarawak State Sports Complex at Petra Jaya, Kuching has recorded an increase of 15 per cent in overall usage from 1 January to 30 April, 2013 compared to the same period last year thereby generating total revenue of RM167, 000.

He also disclosed, in the first four months of 2013, there were 273,000 visitors to the museum galleries. The visitors to the museum are both locals and foreigners with a slight decline in the total number of local visitors.

“Hence, we are proposing a target of 1.2 million visitations to the museum in 2013 by organising more heritage and children related exhibitions and activities.

To date, there are 11 museums throughout

Sarawak. In May this year, we have opened an upgraded longhouse exhibition in the Old Sarawak Museum. The Art Museum continues to partner with our local universities such as UiTM and UNIMAS to showcase their student’s creative art works each year,” he added.

“Over the years, the number of export licences issued under the Sarawak Cultural Heritage Ordinance 1993 for antiques exports has been on the decline. The total number of active antique dealers has declined from 52 to 31 today with three new applications from Betong and Lubok Antu.

There is a need to enforce the requirement of antique registration in a people friendly manner and to monitor its trade in the State,” he said.